GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:157
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
UNDP ASSISTANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian environmental system has become vulnerable to natural disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether UNDP`s Global Environmental Facility Funding to India is continuously increasing;

(d) if so, the funds received from UNDP during the last three years; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to improve environmental system in country?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) India being a country of sub-continental dimensions is prone to natural disasters such as droughts, floods, cyclones, earthquakes etc. However, there is no empirical evidence to suggest that vulnerability of our environmental systems to natural disasters has increased.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir, the amount sanctioned under UNDP/GEF budget during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Amount in US $
1998	2,174,600
1999	1,265,200
2000	6,067,000

(e) In addition to putting in place a comprehensive legislative framework for protection and conservation of environment, forests and wildlife, the Government has undertaken a number of programmes such as those for conservation of bio-diversity, rivers, lakes, mangroves and coral reefs, integrated afforestation and Eco-development programmes etc.